



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
980 Ninth Street, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA. 95814-2724
December 23, 2002

Garcia
To Programming Div.

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
Document # S40920

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Branch, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Transportation Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: FY 2002/03 FSTIP Amendment No. 1 – Butte County Association of Governments (BCAG)

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 1 to the State Highway and Transit Elements of the BCAG 2002/03-2004/05 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated December 20, 2002. BCAG adopted this amendment with Resolution No. 2002/03-12, on December 19, 2002, approving these program modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the BCAG FTIP with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

This amendment was requested by BCAG to make adjustments as described to the following projects:

1. MPO ID # 702093 – State Route 149, new 4-lane expressway project.

Amendment No. 1 moves STIP (IIP) right of way funds from a prior year (01/02) listing into the FTIP triennial element (2002/03-2004/05).

2. MPO ID # 213042 – East 1st Avenue & Mangrove Avenue signalization project.

Amendment No. 1 adds new Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) right of way funds to the FTIP triennial element (2002/03-2004/05). The city of Chico submitted its obligation request to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in September of 2002, however funds were not obligated before the end of the federal fiscal year, thus requiring the current formal amendment.

3. MPO ID # 814092 – North Fork Trail project.

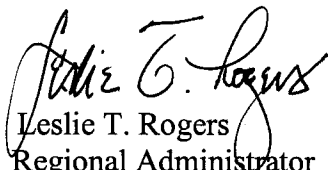
Amendment No. 1 adds National Recreation Trails funding for the North Fork Trail to the FTIP triennial element (2002/03-2004/05). The project was approved for funding in

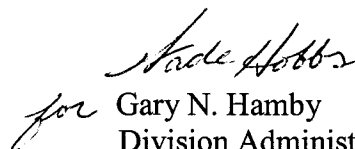
the 2001/02 fiscal year, however, funds were not obligated before the end of the federal fiscal year, thus requiring the current formal amendment.

We accept this amendment in accordance with the provisions of 23 CFR Part 450. We find that this FTIP amendment was developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. section 134, and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. §1607). Based on our review, we find that this FTIP through Amendment No. 1 conforms to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR Parts 51 and 93 and in accordance with January 2, 2002, guidance *Revised Guidance for Implementing the March 1999 Circuit Court Decision Affecting Transportation Conformity* and the Environmental Protection Agency's May 14, 1999, guidance *Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision*. This approval was made after consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) pursuant to the *Transportation Conformity Rule*.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of BCAG's FTIP Amendment No. 1 into California's 2002/03 – 2004/05 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

Sincerely,


Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration


for Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration